

Date: September 9, 2022
To: State Board of Agriculture members
From: Karla Valness, Special Assistant to the Director
Subject: Resolutions

Based on the Board Policy and Procedures for Resolutions, the following resolutions are scheduled for review in 2022.

Proposed action: ACTIVE Resolutions - For review and discussion*

Resolution	Title	Workgroup A--ODA Lead: Isaak Stapleton, Chris Benemann Board members: Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria, Harper
319	Climate Change Policy Considerations	Workgroup recommends keeping Resolution 319 active and continue to review based on public comments.

Proposed action: ACTIVE Resolutions - For review and discussion*

Resolution	Title	Workgroup B--ODA Lead: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson Board members: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski
307	Farmworker Housing	Workgroup recommends keeping Resolution 307 active. Hold for additional input and comments.
317	Oregon Department of Agriculture's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Rule Implementations	Workgroup recommends keeping Resolution 317 active. Hold for additional input and comments.

For a list of State Board of Agriculture Resolutions go to: <https://oda.direct/BOAResolutions>

Work sessions are open to the public.

No public comment periods are scheduled during the work sessions. Proposed edits will be posted for public comment prior to the next State Board of Agriculture meeting on November 17-18, 2022.

State Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review 2022
Workgroup A

Proposed action: ACTIVE Resolutions - For review and discussion*

Resolution	Title	Workgroup A--ODA Lead: Isaak Stapleton, Chris Benemann Board members: Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria, Harper
319	Climate Change Policy Considerations	Workgroup recommends keeping Resolution 319 active and continue to review based on public comments.

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Climate Change Policy Considerations	Number: 319
	Effective Date: v
Workgroup A:	Next Review Date: 00/00/2022 – Under Review
Harper, Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria,	Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/03/2022
ODA Staff Contact: Jsaak Stapleton	Original Resolution Date: 12/05/2019
Board Chair: v	Signature on file

- Deleted: 12/05/2019
- Deleted: 02/02/2022
- Deleted: Sub-Committee:
- Deleted: Brentano,
- Deleted: Kitamura, Myers
- Deleted: 02/02/2022
- Deleted: Stephanie Page
- Deleted: Marty Myers
- Deleted: Brian Harper

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

WHEREAS, climate change is projected to impact Oregon agriculture in many ways, including but not limited to changing precipitation patterns, summer water shortages, increased average and extreme temperatures, and increased drought and fire.

WHEREAS, clean and abundant ground and surface water is critical for agriculture, and climate change is affecting annual rainfall and snowpack that provides water for agriculture.

WHEREAS, Oregon's agriculture industry is diverse in numerous ways, producing over 250 different commodities in various landscapes and climatic conditions, operating diverse production systems using a variety of inputs, depending on diverse markets both domestically and internationally, and partnering with numerous agriculture and food businesses to produce and process products.

WHEREAS, policies intended to help the state in adapting to changing climate conditions, such as policies to address water shortages and water quality issues, will affect agriculture.

WHEREAS, policies to address greenhouse gas emissions will also affect agricultural production, even if agriculture is exempted from these policies.

WHEREAS, policies that regulate greenhouse gas emissions will affect the costs of agricultural inputs including fuels, electricity, and fertilizer, impacting the cost of production as well as the cost of moving agriculture and food products to market.

WHEREAS, competition and regulatory issues can cause emissions intensive trade exposed industries to explore out of state or overseas opportunities, potentially affecting industries that add value to Oregon agricultural products and contribute to Oregon's agricultural and food economies.

WHEREAS, climate change policy may also benefit agriculture by mitigating some of the most serious impacts of climate change, and by providing incentives and tools to help agriculture reduce its emissions and adapt to climate change.

WHEREAS, offsets are one type of incentive, but the costs to measure and verify the mitigation benefits of offset projects can be prohibitive for certain project types.

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions have experienced good participation from the agricultural sector in flexible, accessible, voluntary programs that invest allowance revenue into activities that help agriculture reduce its carbon footprint and adapt to climate change.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon Board of Agriculture recommends any climate change related policies should:

- Maintain a healthy agricultural economy, including processing and infrastructure that adds value to Oregon agricultural production, and retain agriculture's ability to grow crops and livestock, harvest seafood, pack and process agricultural products economically in Oregon.
- Balance the need to reduce emissions from intensive and trade exposed industries with the goal of retaining these industries in the state.
- Recognize that if processing or other facilities leave the state because of higher costs due to carbon policy, we have not achieved the goal of reducing carbon and have simply moved emissions to another location while harming our economy and industry.
- Provide compliance assistance, including longer compliance time frames, technical assistance, and low-cost compliance instruments, for energy intensive trade exposed industries that are at risk of loss to overseas or out of state competitors.
- Support exemptions or rebates for fuel used in on-farm activities.
- Consider the costs of transportation to move agricultural and food products to market, both within the state, domestically, and internationally, and maintain affordable transportation methods to move agricultural products to market both within and beyond the state.
- Structure offset programs so they are as workable and accessible as possible for farmers and ranchers with diverse farm sizes, crop types, and production systems. An aggregation or cooperative effort of small and mid-size operations should be allowed under any offset program.
- Allocate funding for voluntary incentive programs to assist Oregon agriculture in adapting to the impacts of climate change.
- Provide incentives to address the potential impacts of climate change to water supplies and water quality, and support agricultural practices that conserve water, modernize irrigation techniques, and develop water storage capacity.
- Consider adapting the state's water management policies to recognize the changes in climate conditions and water availability.
- Create flexible funding programs, recognizing the diversity in Oregon's commodities, production methods, farm size, and changing and evolving technologies and strategies used.
- Design incentive programs to be as accessible as possible, including a straightforward and simple application process, delivery systems that use local partners such as Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and simple reporting requirements.
- Support research into strategies that help agriculture adapt to some of the projected impacts from climate change.
- Recognize the sequestration opportunities in agriculture and the benefits that longstanding stewardship activities such as protecting the soil, set aside lands with trees, shrubs and plants.

Summary

Recommends that any climate change policies provide voluntary incentives for agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change; recognize agriculture's positive environmental and economic impacts; provide exemptions and compliance time frames to minimize adverse impacts to input costs and companion industries; support research into additional strategies; and support long-term planning, resource allocation and policy changes to help the state adapt to climate change.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

State Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review 2022
Workgroup B

Proposed action: ACTIVE Resolutions - For review and discussion

Resolution	Title	Workgroup B--ODA Lead: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson Board members: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski
307	Farmworker Housing	Workgroup recommends keeping Resolution 307 active. Hold for additional input and comments.
317	Oregon Department of Agriculture's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Rule Implementations	Workgroup recommends keeping Resolution 317 active. Hold for additional input and comments.

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Farmworker Housing	Number: 307 Effective Date: 06/07/2018
Workgroup B: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski	Next Review Date: 00/00/2022 – Under Review Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/03/2022
ODA Staff Contact: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson	Original Resolution Date: 09/07/2011
Board Chair:	Signature on file

- Deleted: Sub-Committee: Government Relations
- Deleted: 06/07/2018
- Deleted: 02/02
- Deleted: Kathryn Walker
- Deleted: Barbara Boyer

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Whereas Oregon’s agriculture, food and fiber industry is economically linked at 13.8 percent, or 326,617, of full and part-time jobs in Oregon;

Whereas a portion of the agricultural workforce related to production agriculture is seasonal and the housing needs for this population of workers are unique with seasonal employment estimated to be over 100,000 during peak harvest;

Whereas the number of on-farm housing and community-based housing opportunities do not meet the demand of the seasonal agricultural workforce;

Whereas farmers are concerned about the growing number of houses traditionally used for farmworker housing being converted to short-term rentals;

Whereas the Farmworker Housing Tax Credit Program is an important tool to help address the availability and livability of housing for seasonal and year-round farm workers in Oregon.

Resolution

Be it therefore resolved that the State Board of Agriculture supports the Farmworker Tax Credit Program and continues to encourage farmers to help address the need for farmworker housing.

Also, be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture encourages the Oregon legislature to consider additional strategies that would provide further opportunities to address the need for farmworker housing.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Oregon Department of Agriculture's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act produce rule implementation	Number: 317 Effective Date: 01/20/2021
Workgroup B: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2022 – Under Review Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/03/2022 Original Resolution Date: 06/08/2016
Board Chair:	Signature on file

- Deleted: Boyer, Hallock, Johnson, Zielinski
- Deleted: 01/20/2021
- Deleted: 02/02/2022
- Deleted: Jess Paulson/Isaak Stapleton/Casey Prentiss
- Deleted: Stephanie Hallock

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Whereas, the new Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) produce safety rule will have tremendous impacts to Oregon agriculture.

Whereas, Oregon's produce industry has not been previously regulated with respect to food safety.

Whereas, these new rules will require, produce farms to have produce safety measures in place and may be inspected for compliance with the rule.

Whereas, ODA has the opportunity to participate in implementation of the FSMA produce safety rule in several ways.

Whereas, ODA has applied for cooperative agreement funding to support the following implementation activities:

- Capacity building
- Outreach
- Education
- Technical assistance
- Developing an inventory of covered farms (this is a required part of the cooperative agreement)

Whereas, if ODA chooses to participate in on-farm produce safety inspections and develop a produce safety regulatory program in future years, ODA would need either (1) statutory authority to conduct the inspections; or (2) to conduct inspections under FDA authority as commissioned officials.

Whereas, ODA has received a variety of feedback from stakeholders about the department's role in inspections. Many stakeholders prefer for ODA to gain the authority to do produce safety inspections in Oregon, while others prefer to leave this responsibility to the FDA. Those in support of ODA-led inspections have indicated they believe ODA understands agriculture and has a good track record of successfully regulating Oregon farms in other areas.

Resolution number: 317

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Resolution title: Oregon Department of Agriculture's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act produce rule implementation

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

1. Supports ODA's participation in produce safety rule implementation only if federal resources are available to support this work.
2. Recommends that ODA focus on capacity building, outreach, education, and technical assistance to help prepare Oregon's produce industry for FSMA.
3. Recommends that ODA develop the farm inventory required as part of the cooperative agreement using voluntary approaches.
4. Recommends that ODA consider applying for inspection funds if and when more information is available.

Summary

Supports ODA's involvement in FSMA produce safety rule implementation as long as federal resources are available to fully cover the cost of the department's work. Recommends initial focus on outreach and education and recommends that ODA wait until more information is available. Recommends a voluntary approach to developing an inventory of covered farms.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review